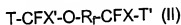


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) Hydrofluoroethers of formula:



wherein:



X, X', equal to or different from each other, are selected between F, CF<sub>3</sub>;

T' = F, Cl, H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> perfluoroalkyl, CH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, COCl, CHO, CO<sub>2</sub>H;

R<sub>f</sub> is selected from:

- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>15</sub> perfluoroalkylene;
- $-(C_2F_4O)_m(CF_2CF(CF_3)O)_n(CF_2O)_p(CF(CF_3)O)_q-$

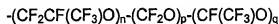
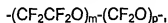
wherein

the sum n+m+p+q ranges from 2 to 200,

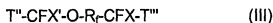
the (p+q)/(m+n+p+q) ratio is lower than or equal to 10:100, preferably comprised between 0.5:100 and 4:100, the n/m ratio ranges from 0.2 to 6, preferably from 0.5 to 3; m, n, p, q are equal to or different from each other and when m, n range from 1 to 100, preferably from 1 to 80, then p, q range from 0 to 80, preferably from 0 to 50; the units with n, m, p, q indexes being statistically distributed along the chain;

- $-(CF_2CF_2CF_2O)_r-$  wherein r ranges from 2 to 200,
- $-(CF(CF_3)CF_2O)_s-$  wherein s ranges from 2 to 200,

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein  $R_f$  is selected from the following structures:



3. (Original) A process for the preparation of the formula (II) compounds of claim 1 comprising the reduction of the formula (III) corresponding precursors:



wherein:



$X, X', R_f$  are as defined in formula (II) of claim 1, carried out with gaseous hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst formed by supported platinum, preferably on metal fluorides, preferably in the presence of inert solvents, at a temperature in the range 20°C-150°C, preferably 80°C-120°C, at a pressure between 1 and 50 atm, preferably between 1 and 10 atm.

4. (Original) A process according to claim 3, wherein the metal fluorides are selected from the group formed by  $CaF_2$ ,  $BaF_2$ ,  $MgF_2$ ,  $AlF_3$ , more preferably  $CaF_2$ .

5. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~claims 3-4~~ claim 3, wherein the Pt concentration on the support is comprised between 0.1% and 10% with respect to the total weight of the catalyst, preferably between 1% and 2% by weight.
6. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~claims 3-5~~ claim 3, wherein the catalyst is used in an amount in the range 1%-100%, preferably 10%-100% by weight with respect to the weight of the formula (III) compound.
7. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~claims 3-6~~ claim 3, wherein the inert solvent is selected among perfluorotetrahydrofuran, perfluorotetrahydropyran, or their mixtures.